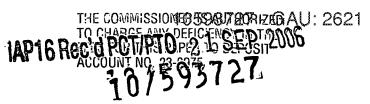
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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Jun TAKAHASHI et al.

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2006\_1310A

Filed September 21, 2006

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## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

	[X]	each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;					
	0	each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/; and/or					
	0	each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.					
la.	[X] Th	[X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:					
		three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the					

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before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 2. It is hereby certified
  - a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure

    Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a

    counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of
    the Statement, or
  - b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

Receipt'date: 09/21/2006

## 1AP16 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 SEP 2006 10/593727

- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
  - a. [X] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. [X] the International Search Report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. [X] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at pages 1 and 2,
  - d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. [X] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

JP 2000-347946 corresponds to EP 1 045 388; JP 2002-278859 corresponds to U.S. 2002/00143807 and EP 1 248 433; and JP 2003-228522 corresponds to U.S. 2003/149886.

5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jun TAKAHASHI et al.

By Can(1)

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Registration No. 33,142

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CRW/asd Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 September 21, 2006 → Receipt date: 09/21/2006 10593727 - GAU: 2621 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ROC' & PCT PTO Sheet 1 of 1 SERIAL NO FORM PTO 1449 (modified) ATTY DOCKET NO. 2006\_1310A NEW U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **APPLICANT** Jun TAKAHASHI et al. LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary ) FILING DATE **GROUP** Date Submitted to PTO: September 21, 2006 September 21, 2006 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS \*EXAMINER DOCUMENT DATE NAME CLASS SUBCLASS FILING DATE IF INITIAL **APPROPRIATE** NUMBER /D.H./ AA 2002/0143807 10/2002 Komatsu AB 2003/0149886 8/2003 Ito et al. /D.H./ AC AD ΑE AF AG FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS DOCUMENT COUNTRY CLASS **SUBCLASS** TRANSLATION DATE NUMBER YES NO /D.H./ AΗ 2000-347946 12/2000 JP **Abstract** /D.H./ ΑI 1 045 388 10/2000 EP 2004/005816 JP Abstract ΑJ 1/2004 /D.H./ & Partial Translation /D.H./ ΑK 2002-278859 9/2002 JP Abstract /D.H./ AL 1 248 433 10/2002 EP /D.H./ AM 2003-228522 8/2003 JP Abstract AN OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) AO ΑP AQ 04/21/2010 /David Harvey/ DATE CONSIDERED **EXAMINER**